

HORRIBLE SCENES OF DESTITUTION

American Naval Officers' Investigation at Matanzas.

THOUSANDS LITERALLY STARVING

The Population Being Slowly Decimated—No Adequate Relief for the Destitute Concentrated—Suburban Colonies of Emaciated, Dying People of the Working Class—Death Strikes the Streets.

New York, Feb. 23.—A special correspondent of the Associated Press, writing from Santiago de Cuba under date of Feb. 8, says: While the United States cruiser Monterey was at Matanzas recently a board of officers was appointed to inquire into the condition of the people of that province. Although the exact terms of the report are not known, it may be said that, in substance, it sets forth that there are 14,000 people absolutely without food and clothing within the city limits. About 3,000 of these live in small huts of palm branches. These huts form three separate villages beyond the lines from the city of Matanzas. The other 11,000 unfortunate live in the streets of the city and are absolutely without homes or shelter.

These 14,000 people are the laboring classes, who have been driven into the streets from their country homes, which have been destroyed by the operations of the war. Most of them are women and children, and they are all emaciated, sick and almost beyond relief unless they can have the benefit of regular treatment in the hospitals. As it is, they are dying in the streets for want of food.

According to statistics gathered from the best official sources, the number of deaths in the province of Matanzas from starvation is 55,000, and the number of starving people at present in the province is estimated at 88,000, out of a total population of 253,616 in December, 1887, and the number of starving people is rapidly increasing.

THE DEATH RATE. In the city of Matanzas alone there have been about 11,000 deaths during the past year, and the number is increasing daily. The death rate at present averages forty-six per day, as shown by the reports from the cemetery. The increase in the death rate is due to the fact that the distress is no longer confined to the laboring people, most of whom have already perished. It has now extended to the class of people who, before the war, were in moderately comfortable circumstances. Those who are now bogging in the streets were, in a large part, well-to-do people, or the children of people who were well-to-do. And, in addition, the citizens of the city of Matanzas themselves are beginning to suffer for the actual necessities of life, having drained their resources in order to supply the urgent needs of the laboring class who have been quartered upon them.

The citizens of Matanzas have an organized system of relief for the starving people, but it is entirely inadequate, and is daily becoming more glaringly so, for the resources of those who were well-to-do are rapidly diminishing, while the demand for food is constantly increasing, in spite of the enormous and constantly increasing death rate. The three relief places in the city of Matanzas do not begin to adequately supply food to the 14,000 people who are still starving in the streets, for the citizens are only able to issue food three times a day at each place and then to only about 100 at a time. Consequently, only about 600 of the destitute people receive food once a day. Many citizens of Matanzas have fed the starving in the streets, from the front of their own homes; but they themselves are feeling the pinch of privation, and unless assistance soon comes to them, they will be compelled in self protection to cease the work of charity in which they are now engaged, and which is seemingly the only link connecting the starving thousands with life.

AMERICANS IN WANT. These statements are not exaggerations. They are the conclusions, facts and figures arrived at by a board of United States naval officers. Therefore it will be readily seen that there is urgent necessity for the immediate relief of the starving thousands of Matanzas, to say nothing of those of other and still sadder cities.

When ever the United States officers landed they were constantly followed by clamoring crowds of starving men, women and children, who impounded them in the most heartrending manner for a little food, for the want of which they were slowly dying. The United States consul at Matanzas has done everything possible under the circumstances, but when the Montgomery arrived in the first days of February, the consul had on hand enough rations remaining to last about two weeks, after which the fund appropriated by congress would have been exhausted, and then the sufferers of Matanzas would have been left to the mercies of the Cuban government, who had hitherto received relief through the United States consulate.

QUAY AND THE WAR SCARE. The Senator Repudiates an Interview Credited to Him. Pittsburgh, Feb. 23.—What purported to be an interview with United States Senator M. S. Quay, given at his home in Beaver, bearing on the destruction of the battleship Maine and the presence in American waters of the Viscaya, was given publicity yesterday. Senator Quay was last night asked by a representative of the Commercial Gazette if he had made the statements credited to him in regard to the Maine explosion. He said: "I have not authorized an interview on the subject. The secrets of the government are not in my possession, and I would not place me in a ridiculous light at Washington." The interview repudiated by Senator Quay follows:

"The Maine was blown up by a torpedo," declared the senator. "The government at Washington understands fully the situation at Havana and all that is being done there and that has taken place. All the inquiry and all the investigations of divers with divers nothing more than is now known. The torpedo that destroyed the battleship was made in the United States. Its character is fully understood. It was possible to send it through the water for a mile and to discharge it either by percussion or by a time fuse arranged by clock work. That the Spanish government had sought to do with the work, however, is not believed by anyone conversant with the facts. The torpedo probably was sent on its terrible mission by members of the volunteer army in Havana. The work had not the countenance of the Spanish authorities." "Now," continued the senator, "the only thing that is most alarming to the

government at Washington is the presence in New York harbor of the Viscaya. That boat is a menace because there are in the United States just the same elements as there are in Havana. The Viscaya is in danger from the Cuban junta. The government fears that the ship may be blown up just as was the Maine. Every one is extremely apprehensive on this score. Every precaution has been taken to prevent anything befalling the cruiser, but there is no telling what might be done by the irresponsible people who have the cause of Cuba at heart. What our government wants now is to get the Viscaya out of the United States waters. That there will be an attempt to destroy her is well known to the department at Washington; they have been informed of the intentions of the enemies of Spain, who in this case are also enemies of the United States. "A blow struck at the Viscaya, or any accident befalling her while in New York harbor would be tantamount to a declaration of war. The country is aflame with a war feeling. It is against this that the government at Washington is guarding. The sentiment of the cooler persons at the capital is that the people of the country must be kept down in this matter; the war spirit must not be permitted to carry them away."

BELIEF IN FOUL PLAY GAINS NEW STRENGTH

[Concluded from Page 1.]

might retard the execution of man-ouvres.

CUBA IN THE SENATE.

Mr. Allen Squelched by a Decisive Vote—War Unk Grows. Washington, Feb. 23.—While the senate had under consideration the diplomatic and consular appropriation bill today a sharp debate on the Cuban situation was precipitated by Mr. Allen, of Nebraska, who offered an amendment to the resolution passed by the senate a year ago recognizing the belligerent rights of the Cuban insurgents. The debate became general and occupied nearly four hours.

In the course of a reply to the preliminary statement by Mr. Allen, Mr. Morgan, of Alabama, said that this country's relations with Spain at the present time were seriously strained and that intervention by the United States which a year ago would have been ineffective, would now be almost a cause for war. He expressed the opinion that the Cuban affair would eventually be submitted to the arbitration of the sword between the United States and Spain, but he did not want war precipitated by rash acts of legislation. Mr. Foraker (O.) thought the day not far distant when the time for action by this country would arrive and that the chief magistrate of the nation ought to rejoice that the legislative branch of the government was prepared to support him in preserving American rights. Mr. Thurston (Neb.) counseled calmness and prudence for he believed that the country was rapidly drifting into a war with Spain. "We ought to have patience," said he, "and wait as a great and powerful people, not in fear but in hope, that some satisfactory conclusion of the present difficulty may be reached."

Mr. Hoar (Mass.) maintained that the bill of the senate was no proper place for angry discussions on international affairs, and that no senator ought to utter anything that might not be uttered by the president of the United States. "We ought to have patience, however," to give his support to the executive should the time for action arrive, provided the proposed action was based upon clear and unmistakable facts. Mr. Allen's amendment was ruled out by order and the executive branch of the government under the ruling took the Nebraska senator was laid on the table by a vote of 51 to 5. Early in the day Mr. Allen offered a resolution providing for a committee of five senators who should go to Cuba and ascertain the precise situation on the island. Under the rules it went over until tomorrow. Both the military academy and the diplomatic and consular appropriation bills were passed.

VISAYA STILL HERE.

Her Captain is in No Hurry to Take His Departure. New York, Feb. 23.—Sensational reports that the Viscaya's officers had ordered that the coal be taken aboard at day work and night in this service were authoritatively denied today. On the contrary, no more dispatches have been used in coaling than is usual, and no efforts will be made to complete the loading of the 900 tons required by the cruiser, before tomorrow.

It was learned at the Spanish consulate general that Captain Eulate had received his sailing orders up to 2 p. m. today. He was ordered before leaving Las Palmas to spend one week in American waters, before sailing for Havana and up to this time has received no instructions conflicting with this order.

BATTLESHIP TEXAS SAILS.

She Leaves Galveston En Route for Dry Tortugas. Galveston, Tex., Feb. 23.—The battleship Texas and gunboat Nashville sailed from Galveston this afternoon. The Texas was under the command of Admiral Sigsbee's fleet and the Nashville to Key West for orders. It has been reported that the Nashville would be sent to Havana to replace the Maine, but if Captain Maynard has any such orders he has given no hint of it here. The big ten-inch gun, the first of the ordinance for the Galveston fortifications, will reach Galveston tonight.

READY FOR BUSINESS.

Troops at Fort Thomas and Ohio Guardsmen Are Active. Cincinnati, O., Feb. 23.—The has been much activity at Fort Thomas, in Kentucky, for some days. The troops are under special discipline, with extra drilling. Colonel Cochrane, the commandant, and other officers refuse to interview the press. The troops were supplied with 150 round of ammunition each. Battery B, of the Ohio National Guard, under command of Captain Herman, today advertised for recruits.

TO INSPECT COAST DEFENCES.

Major General Merritt Starts on His Annual Pilgrimage. New York, Feb. 23.—Major General Merritt, commanding the department of the east, left today for an inspection of the defenses on the Atlantic coast south of New York. He announced that this was his regular annual inspection.

BOUND FOR KEY WEST.

Mobile Ala., Feb. 23.—The United States cruiser Detroit left here today for Key West.

DELIBERATIONS OF BOARD OF PARDONS

Long List of Cases Disposed of in a Short Session.

THOS. CAMPBELL'S CASE POSTPONED

In the Absence of Attorney-General McCormick the Plea of Carbonate's Life-Sentenced Murderer Was Not Heard—Only Three Prisoners' Profit by the Board's Clemency.

Harrisburg, Feb. 23.—The board of pardons held a short session today and disposed of a long list of cases. Attorney General McCormick did not sit in his usual place. He is in Philadelphia arguing state tax cases before the Supreme court. Owing to his absence the case of Thomas Campbell, of Carbonate, a life-sentenced murderer, was not heard. Joseph R. Wilson, the petitioner for the pardon, expressed his willingness to argue the case before the members of the board present, but Lieutenant Governor Lyon stated that, owing to the case being one of the first degree, no decision could be given in the absence of the attorney general. Mr. Wilson returned to Philadelphia much disappointed, as this is the second time the case has been continued through no fault of his. Before leaving he stated that the opposition to the pardon by the relatives of Michael McNulty, the man who was killed, had evidently been withdrawn, as their counsel was not present to conduct the opposition. "I am most gratified over this," he said, "as Campbell's case is a sad one and even the relatives of his victim appreciate this by their considerate withdrawal of their opposition to his pardon."

Campbell has already served twenty-one years and seven months. The case will come up again March 30.

BOARD'S RECOMMENDATIONS.

The board recommended pardons for James Sullivan, Blair, Jarency, and Tony Iawser and John Widdick, Huntington, assault and battery. Pardons were refused William Hinden, Lancaster, burglary and receiving stolen goods; Henry Marcus, Allegheny, receiving stolen goods; Peter Quigley, Cambria, receiving stolen goods and highway robbery; Henry Kraft, Somerset, larceny; Antonio Conzola, Allegheny, larceny; and Walter P. Conaghan, Luzerne, larceny. The cases of John A. Haust, Philadelphia embezzlement; Rufus Connor, Allegheny, and Frank Seyder, William Hutsinger, Allegheny, receiving stolen goods, were held under advisement. A rehearing was refused in the case of Mary Kohout, of Pittsburg, serving five years in the Western penitentiary for larceny. Adolph Richter, Susquehanna, until the March term, except that of Edwin D. Helder, first degree murder, which went over until the April term.

WHOLESALE POISONING?

Here Are Some Symptoms Which Certainly Have a Suspicious Look. Steps Toward an Investigation.

Huntingdon, Pa., Feb. 23.—By direction of District Attorney Dunn, Coroner Schum today began an investigation into the alleged wholesale poisoning of the family of Joseph Demco, a naturalized Hungarian farmer of Cromwell township. Mrs. Demco and the youngest child died suddenly from what Dr. J. C. Stever, the attending physician, declared to be convulsions caused by an irritant poison. Demco and the two remaining children, suffering with the same symptoms, are barely alive. Their bodies are emaciated and covered with eruptions. Demco and John Wilber, also a naturalized Hungarian, purchased a farm in common, and lived in a double house with their families. Dissemens arose over Wilber's effort to dispose of an interest in the farm to a fellow countryman. On Jan. 2, Demco's two-year-old child was taken suddenly sick and died in convulsions. On the 12th inst., Mrs. Demco met a similar death and all the other members of the family were stricken down. Wilber, the co-partner, administered the medicine prescribed by the attending physician, but the three patients continued to sink until, in desperation, Dr. Stever removed them to his home. They are now slowly improving. The powders prescribed by Dr. Stever and entrusted to Wilber show traces of arsenic, which is a suspicious fact. These the coroner will have analyzed. Wilber, who is now under surveillance, acknowledges having bought arsenic recently, but says it was to kill barn rats. The bodies of Mrs. Demco and the child will be examined on Monday and their stomachs subjected to an analytical examination.

MUST GO TO JAIL.

No Further Leniency to Captain Hart, the Filibuster. Philadelphia, Feb. 23.—Captain John D. Hart, who was convicted in the United States court about a year ago of aiding in a filibustering expedition against Spain, was today taken to the Eastern penitentiary to serve the sentence of two years imposed upon him at the time of his conviction. Judge Butler presided at Hart's trial. An appeal was taken to the United States court of appeals and the finding of the district court was confirmed and Judge Butler today ordered Hart's removal to prison.

Pending a disposal of his case, Captain Hart had been at liberty under \$7,000 bail. Hart is president of the Hart Steamship company, and was part owner of the alleged filibustering steamer Laurada. He was also fined \$500.

SEALED IN FIRE TOMB.

Terrible Fate of John Griffith, a Shumokiu Mine Boss. Shamokin, Pa., Feb. 23.—Fire was discovered near the bottom of Girard mine slope today and John Griffith, a night fire-boss, is closed in the mine, where he has been already buried, a light either from fire or smoke. All avenues of escape are shut off and a heavy fall of top rock on the slope prevents the miners from reaching the flames to do effective work.

As Fireboss Griffith was the only person in the mine at the time the flames were discovered, it is not known how the fire started. It will probably be necessary to flood the mine in order to extinguish the flames, which were raging furiously. This afternoon.

Death of Ex-Major Verbeke.

Harrisburg, Feb. 23.—City Controller

MASONS IN COUNCIL.

They Elect Officers and Decide to Re-assemble in Philadelphia.

Wilkes-Barre, Feb. 23.—The annual grand council of the Royal and Select Master of Pennsylvania Masons today concluded its sessions. The following officers were elected and installed: Samuel S. Yobe, P. M., grand master; P. M. Flickinger, Erie, R. deputy grand master; James H. Youngston, Pittsburg, R. P., illustrious grand master; Frank W. Martens, Easton, R. P., P. C. of work; Andrew J. Kauffman, Columbia, grand master; J. L. Lyte, Lancaster, R. P. grand recorder. The next session will be held in Philadelphia.

IMPERATIVE ORDERS ISSUED.

The Cruiser Minneapolis Must Be Ready to Float Today. Philadelphia, Feb. 23.—Imperative orders were issued today to the painters working on the cruiser Minneapolis, in dry dock at League Island, that they must finish her so that she can be floated at high tide tomorrow. The force of men has been enlarged, they worked until dusk tonight and will resume at daylight in the morning.

The navy yard was crowded today with men desiring to enlist, but the medical examination was too rigid for most of them and only a few were accepted.

IN RE VON DER AHE.

Pittsburg, Feb. 23.—The second application for the release of Chris Von der Ahe on a writ of habeas corpus was heard before Judge Huntington, sitting in the United States circuit court today. No decision was rendered, but from the remarks of the court, it is generally believed that the court will decide against Von der Ahe.

An Encouraging Gain.

Methuen, Pa., Feb. 23.—At the sixtieth annual session of the Eastern Pennsylvania conference of the Evangelical association tonight, reports from ninety fields of labor were presented, showing a gain in conversions over last years of more than 12,000.

Pennsylvania Postmasters Appointed.

Washington, Feb. 23.—Fourth class postmasters have been appointed as follows: Pennsylvania—Cortez, George W., Kipp, Garrett, William L. Brant, Highhouse, W. S. Leech; Leisenring, James McGloin.

Tribune Classified Specials

HELP WANTED.....1 CENT A WORD FOR RENT.....1 CENT A WORD FOR SALE.....1 CENT A WORD REAL ESTATE.....1 CENT A WORD AGENTS WANTED.....1 CENT A WORD

SITUATIONS WANTED

Free of Charge. All advertisements inserted in these columns (excepting Situations Wanted, which are published free of charge), are payable STRICTLY IN ADVANCE. DON'T ask to have them charged.

HELP WANTED—MALE

WANTED—A GOOD MAN TO DO CANNASSING; unmarried preferred. Will pay salary. Call or address GREAT AT-TENTION STRICTLY IN ADVANCE. DON'T ask to have them charged.

RELIABLE MEN WANTED TO ADDRESS CATALOGS, CIRCULARS AND ENVELOPES.

Send stamp for particulars. SOMERVILLE, N. J. O. EVANS & CO., Chicago, Ill.

OPHUM MORPHINE WHISKEY—IF INTERESTED IN CURE OF THESE HABITS WRITE FOR MY BOOK; mailed free. B. M. WOOLLEY, M. D., Atlanta, Ga.

SALESMEN—SCHOOL SUPPLIES.

Interested in collecting position permanent; pay weekly; state age. GLEN BROTHERS, Rochester, N. Y.

KLONDIKE—AGENTS WANTED FOR LARGE ILLUSTRATED BOOK OF KLONDIKE.

Five hundred pages; price \$1.50; outfit the office. ADDRESS NATIONAL PUBLISHING CO., Lakeside Building, Chicago, Ill.

WANTED—SOLICITORS; NO DELIVERY.

Interested in collecting position permanent; pay weekly; state age. GLEN BROTHERS, Rochester, N. Y.

AGENTS—WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO ABOUT SAFE CITIZENSHIP—PRICE \$1.

Interested in collecting position permanent; pay weekly; state age. GLEN BROTHERS, Rochester, N. Y.

AGENTS—TO SELL OUR PRACTICAL

Interested in collecting position permanent; pay weekly; state age. GLEN BROTHERS, Rochester, N. Y.

AGENTS—TO SELL CIGARS TO DEALERS.

Interested in collecting position permanent; pay weekly; state age. GLEN BROTHERS, Rochester, N. Y.

FOR RENT

NINE-ROOM HOUSE, BATH, RANGE, furnace, 329 Madison avenue, Green Ridge.

FOR RENT OR SALE—TWO DOUBLE houses on Myrtle street; for rent, two double houses on Quincy avenue and one on Gibson street. Ten rooms each side. Steam heat. Apply to T. J. DUGAN, Library Building, Wyoming ave.

CONNOLLY & WALLACE. Are You Inclined to Buy a Coat? What we have left, some a half dozen of a kind and a few odd styles here and there, not more than seventy, all told. All \$5.00 to \$7.50 Coats at.....\$2.00 All 7.50 to 12.50 Coats at..... 3.50 All 12.50 to 25.00 Coats at..... 5.00

We believe these are the Greatest Reductions ever made on Coats. CONNOLLY & WALLACE, 127 and 129 Washington Avenue.

AGENTS WANTED. RELIABLE PERSONS TO TAKE THE agency in their own towns for the best line of fast selling novelties; pays 20 per cent profit; for ladies or gents. SPIRO & WATKINS, 1031 and 1033 Chestnut street, Philadelphia, Pa.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY. PARTNER WANTED. WE HAVE \$10,000. Established business. Will bear investigation. Large profits. Safe investment. For interview address P. O. Box 374, Scranton, Pa.

AMUSEMENTS. Academy of Music. Reiss & Burgunder, Lessees. H. R. Long, Local Manager. Three days, commencing Thursday. Usual Matinee. A Festival of Laug. Hoyt's A Bunch of Keys (On THE HOTEL.) Ada Botner as Teddy, and a splendid company of farce comedy favorites, in the latest hits, fads, songs and dances of the day. A new departure in fascinating effects. Regular Prices, 15c, 25c, 35c, 50c. One Week, Beginning Monday, February 28. 10 Operas. 5 Matinees.

HELP WANTED—FEMALE. WANTED—TEN LADIES TO TAKE home piecework. Call 210 Spruce street.

SITUATIONS WANTED. POSITION WANTED AS BUTCHER BY experienced man; can furnish best of reference. Address Ralph, Tribune office.

Waite's Comic Opera Company. And Grand Orchestra. In new operas, new scenery, entirely new costumes, grand electrical effects and three new prima donnas, two new comedians and two tenors, a car load of scenery and 50 people. Repertoire for the Week: Monday evening—"Paul Jones." Tuesday matinee—"Chimes of Normandy." Tuesday evening—"Fra Diavolo." Wednesday matinee—"La Mascotte." Wednesday night—"Marianne." Thursday matinee—"Boccaccio." Thursday night—"Two Vagabonds." Friday matinee—"Girofle-Girofla." Friday night—"Bohemian Girl." Saturday matinee—"Paul Jones." Saturday night—"Ole Otto." PRICES—Night, 10, 20 and 30 cents. Matinee, 10 and 20 cents. Seats on sale Friday, Feb. 25.

HELP WANTED—FEMALE. WANTED—TEN LADIES TO TAKE home piecework. Call 210 Spruce street.

SITUATIONS WANTED—ANY KIND OF work by young man, 23. Eight years experience in general store. Good reference. Address A. B. C. R. Y. M. C. A. City.

Lyceum Theater. Reiss & Burgunder, Lessees. H. R. Long, Local Manager. Engagements of the Entouset Tragedian, THOS. W. WEEK. Accompanied by Chas. H. Hanford, presenting LOUIS XI. Prices, \$1.00, 75c, 50c, 25c. Sale of seats open.

LEGAL NOTICE. ESTATE OF STAFFORD KIZER, LATE of the City of Scranton, County of Lackawanna and State of Pennsylvania. Letters of administration on the above named estate have been granted to the undersigned, all persons having claims or demands against the said estate will file the same with me on or before the 28th day of the month in which that bill is presented. By Order of the Board, G. R. HAND, Secretary.

LEGAL NOTICE. ESTATE OF J. ATTICUS ROBERTSON, late of the City of Scranton, county of Lackawanna, and state of Pennsylvania, deceased. Notice is hereby given that letters testamentary in the above named estate have been granted to the undersigned. All persons indebted to said estate are requested to make payment and all persons having claims or demands against the same will present them to

THE LINDEN, Originally Wonderful. Under Entire Management, Brooks & Ludwig, Lessees. N. H. Brooks, Mgr. Thursday, Friday and Saturday, Zaie's great French drama. THE CELEBRATED CASE. Next Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, Scranton's Favorite, Miss Alice Kemp, in the great character of "Agathe" in "HIDDEN HAND." Matinees Every Day when 10 cents will admit to any part of house. Evenings, 10c, 25c, and 50c. Doors open 1:30 and 7. Performances, 2:50 and 8:15.

REAL ESTATE. \$2,500 WILL BUY AN ELEGANT NEW furnished home; house ten rooms, very complete; lot 119 by 131 feet; located in upper Green Ridge. Apply at 616 Spruce street, first floor.

LEGAL NOTICE. ESTATE OF J. ATTICUS ROBERTSON, late of the City of Scranton, county of Lackawanna, and state of Pennsylvania, deceased. Notice is hereby given that letters testamentary in the above named estate have been granted to the undersigned. All persons indebted to said estate are requested to make payment and all persons having claims or demands against the same will present them to

CHIROPODIST. CORNS, BUNIONS AND INGROWING nails cured without the least pain or drawing blood. Consultation and advice given free. Dr. M. HETZEL, Chiropodist, 300 Lackawanna avenue. Ladies attended at their residence if desired. Charges moderate.